

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121 as follows:

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

Depending on its operating mode, design and efficiency, such device which is frequency typically referred to as a hammer axle pulling device, is important not only for ~~[[of]]~~ changing hammers and protective caps of the hammer crusher, but also for an ~~[[the]]~~ increased uptime of the hammer crusher.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

The hammer axle pulling devices used to ~~this date~~ consist primarily of a moveable frame that can be moved manually, connecting rods secured to the frame and moveable thereto, which require significant space and are of complex design, so that the required maintenance has an unfavorable effect on the uptime of the hammer crusher system.

Delete the sentence on page 2, line 29 in its entirety.

Replace lines 13-29 on page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

~~The invention will be described in more detail with reference to an embodiment. The corresponding drawings show in~~

~~Fig. 1 — a schematic diagram of the process flow and the construction of the invention with the functions
a) hammer axle pulling device in ready mode;
b) establishing the connection between cross member and the rotor;
c) pulling to the hammer axle in 3 strokes;~~

~~Fig. 2 — the basic construction of the hammer axle pulling device with a hydraulic drive in releaseable effective connection to the rotor of the hammer crusher shown in a longitudinal cross-sectional view; and~~

~~Fig. 3 — a front view of the rotor of Fig. 2, initially without the features of the hammer axle pulling device, wherein the detailed view A-A shows the section taken along the line A-A of Fig. 2, with the section taken along B-~~

~~B shown as detail B-B.~~

The foregoing and other features of the present invention will be more readily apparent from the following detailed description and drawings of illustrative embodiments of the invention wherein like reference numbers refer to similar elements throughout the several views and in which:

Fig. 1a shows a schematic diagram of a hammer axle pulling device in accordance with the present invention while in ready mode;

Fig. 1b shows a schematic diagram of the hammer axle pulling device in accordance with the present invention showing the connection between cross member and rotor;

Fig. 1c shows the hammer axle pulling device in accordance with the present invention wherein the hammer axle pulling device has pulled the hammer axle 1/3 stroke;

Fig. 1d shows the hammer axle pulling device in accordance with the present invention wherein the hammer axle pulling device has pulled the hammer axle 2/3 stroke;

Fig. 1e shows the hammer axle pulling device in accordance with the present invention wherein the hammer axle pulling device has pulled the hammer axle 3/3 stroke;

Fig. 2 shows a longitudinal cross-sectional view of the hammer axle pulling device with a hydraulic drive in releasable effective connection to the rotor of the hammer crusher;

Fig. 3 shows a front view of the rotor of Fig. 2 without any features of the hammer axle pulling device;

Fig. 4 shows a detailed cross-sectional view along line 4-4 in Fig. 2; and

Fig. 5 shows a detailed cross-sectional view along line 5-5 in Fig. 4.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

To provide a better understanding of the technological and constructive relationships, a rotor 1 supported in a housing (not shown) of a hammer crusher will be described first with reference to Figs. 2 and 3 through 5. The rotor is made of several disks 1.2 or spiders that are non-rotatably disposed on a shaft 1.1, and of hammers 1.3 distributed between them, wherein the hammers 1.3 are rotatably supported on hammer axles 1.5 that are guided through the disks 1.2 parallel to and eccentrically with respect to the shaft 1.1. The hammer axles 1.5 also hold protective caps 1.4 which protect the rotor 1 and the disks 1.2 against wear. The hammer axles 1.5 are secured in the axial direction with releasable locking elements 1.7 which are affixed to the outer disks 1.2. Finally, openings, such as slots 1.6, which form corresponding attachment elements for a hammer axle pulling device 2 depicted in Fig. 1 Figs. 1a-e, are provided on the outer disks 1.2 to allow demounting and remounting of the hammers 1.3, hammer axles 1.5 and protective caps, as described above.

Replace the paragraphs on page 5, lines 1-12 with the following amended paragraph:

The cross member 2.1 includes as fixing elements 2.3 the aforementioned hammer head screws, which engage in the corresponding slots or openings 1.6 of the end disks 1.2 or of a similar element of the rotor 1. The hammer head screws engage behind the end disks 1.2 by being rotated with locking levers 2.6 and are secured by nuts 2.7 (~~Fig. 3, B-B~~) (Fig. 5). In this position, the cross member 2.1 is in a fixed and releasable connection with the rotor 1.

The pulling head 2.2 is connected with the slide 2.4 by a releasable element 2.5, such as an insertable interlocking device, whereby the pulling head 2.2 can be locked on the slide 2.4 in several spacings/positions (~~Fig. 3, A-A~~) (Fig. 4). For this purpose, the slide 2.4 ~~[[as]]~~ has several suitable positions.

Replace page 6, lines 1-3 with the following amended text:

- a) exposing the rotor 1, which remains mounted in at least one part of the housing, and rotating and securing the same in an upper dead center position of ~~[[die]]~~ the respective hammer axle 1.5;

Replace page 6, lines 7-10 with the following amended text:

- c) mounting a cross member 2.1 with fixing elements ~~[[2.2]]~~ 2.3 of a hammer axle pulling device 2 in a position in which the fixing elements 2.3 match corresponding fixing elements 1.6 on a front face of the rotor 1 (~~Fig. 2, Fig. 3 A-A, B-B~~) (Fig. 2, Fig. 4, Fig. 5);

Replace page 6, lines 13-15 with the following amended text:

- e) producing a rigid and subsequently releasable connection between the fixing elements 2.3 of the cross member 2.1 and fixing elements 1.6 of the rotor 1 (~~Fig. 3 B-B~~) (Fig. 5);

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 30 with the following amended text:

k) once again, and optionally repeatedly, retracting the slide 2.4 and pulling the hammer axle 1.5 out to a position in which all hammers 1.3 and/or protective caps 1.4 and optionally the hammer axle 1.5 are removed, thereby finishing the demounting step ~~(Fig. 1c, 2/3 stroke, 3/3 stroke)~~ (Fig. 1d, 2/3 stroke; Fig. 1e, 3/3 stroke); thereafter remounting by

Replace page 7, lines 18-20 with the following amended text:

It should be noted in the process flow that the ~~blocking~~ locking element 1.7 that secures the hammer axle 1.5 is first released and then ~~reinstalled~~ engaged after the remounting operation is complete.